

Dear BOB Partner,

I am pleased to report that the Cumberland River Compact hosted a visit today by the EPA Administrator Stephen Johnson and EPA Regional Administrator Jimmy Palmer. During a swing through Tennessee, the Administrator visited the award winning Building Outside the Box project to learn more about our sustainable building success and help find ways to replicate our work. A ceremony was held at the BOB site at Morgan Park Place in Historic Germantown with the kind assistance of our BOB partners the Lawrence Brothers. The Administrator praised the work of the BOB partners calling sustainable building a win-win for economic growth and for environmental protection. During the ceremony he announced a follow-on grant from the EPA to the Cumberland River Compact to continue our sustainable building work for water friendly, energy efficient homes and communities.

Administrator Johnson also presented the Compact's Board Chair, Shirley Caldwell-Patterson, with the prestigious President's Volunteer Service Award for a lifetime of environmental stewardship. Please see both EPA press releases below for more details about the new grant and this well-deserved high honor awarded to Shirley. I wish we had been able to extend an open invitation to the entire BOB list for the event. However, we were asked to keep the event small for the sake of security and the venue size. However, we credit each of you with making BOB a success and we look forward to ongoing work together. Thank you for your ongoing support. Stay cool..... Gwen

Subject: EPA Administrator Recognizes Local Environmental Leader with President's Highest Volunteer Service Award

For Immediate Release: August 10, 2007

Contact: Davina Marraccini, (404) 562-8293, marraccini.davina@epa.gov

(ATLANTA - AUGUST 10, 2007) Today, EPA Administrator Stephen L. Johnson honored Shirley Caldwell-Patterson with the President's Volunteer Service Award in Nashville, Tenn. Caldwell-Patterson received the President's top award, the Call to Service Award, for nearly 6,000 hours of volunteer service. Caldwell-Patterson's work has benefited more than two million people who depend on the Cumberland Basin.

Her volunteer service began in 1997 when, at the age of 79, Caldwell-Patterson saw a film chronicling Victor Scoggins's full-length swim of the Cumberland River in Tennessee and Kentucky and was appalled by the river's condition. Never one to merely point out problems without suggesting solutions, Caldwell-Patterson and two associates founded the Cumberland River Compact the same year. Today, the Compact has grown into an organization of more than 4,000 people with a mission to enhance the water quality of the 697 mile-long Cumberland River and its tributaries.

"Today we honor Shirley Caldwell-Patterson for answering President Bush's call to serve a cause greater than herself," said EPA Administrator Stephen L. Johnson. "Dedicated volunteers like Mrs. Caldwell-Patterson are inspiring others to join them in delivering America a brighter, healthier future."

Caldwell-Patterson's mantra of "education, cooperation and communication" among citizens, businesses and agencies has helped the Compact achieve success. The Compact established seven watershed associations and aims to establish one in all 14 watersheds within the basin. Since 2005, the Compact provided more than 300 local officials with free training on water issues and policies. The Compact gave Tennessee its first EarthCraft-certified house after receiving one of 20 EPA demonstration projects to show builders how to construct more eco-friendly communities. Caldwell-Patterson was instrumental in facilitating Principles of Agreement between Kentucky and Tennessee to enhance water quality.

In his January 2002 State of the Union Address, President Bush called on Americans to make a difference in their

communities through volunteering. He created USA Freedom Corps, an Office of the White House, to strengthen and expand volunteer service. Americans are responding to the President's Call to Service.

The President's Volunteer Service Award was created at the President's direction by the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation. The Award is available to youth ages 14 and under who have completed 50 or more hours of volunteer service; to individuals 15 and older who have completed 100 or more hours; and to families or groups who have completed 200 or more hours. For more information about the Award, please visit www.presidentialserviceawards.gov.

Go to www.volunteer.gov or call 1-877-USA-CORPS to find an existing volunteer service opportunity in your area, or to find more information about service programs, including national service programs such as the Peace Corps, AmeriCorps, Senior Corps, and Citizen Corps. USA Freedom Corps is also highlighting youth volunteer service. Visit www.volunteerkids.gov for games and ideas to see how America's youth are making a difference.

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Subject: EPA Awards Tennessee Nonprofit \$186,000 to Advance Green Building and Protect Cumberland Basin

For Immediate Release: August 10, 2007

Contact: Davina Marraccini, (404) 562-8293, marraccini.davina@epa.gov

(ATLANTA - AUGUST 10, 2007) U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Stephen L. Johnson today presented an \$186,051 grant to the Cumberland River Compact (Compact), a nonprofit organization based in Nashville, for work to advance sustainable residential building in Tennessee and to explore the combination of existing green building programs and certifications into more holistic national standards.

The grant was made through EPA's Southeastern Regional Environmental Priority (REP) program, which supports new approaches to environmental priorities and tests unproven technologies or models that can be used in other communities and sectors. Between 2002 and 2006, EPA Region 4 has provided more than \$1.2 million in REP grants and has, in turn, leveraged an additional \$1 million through the projects. The Compact's project is one of eight REP grants being funded this year in the region.

"EPA understands that the health and prosperity of our nation is dependent on the sustainability and security of our water resources. Thankfully, working with leaders like the Cumberland River Compact, we are keeping our nation's environmental progress flowing into the future," said EPA Administrator Stephen L. Johnson. "Today's EPA grant will help build on our partner's progress of promoting green development and stream restoration practices that benefit the people, communities and water quality throughout the Cumberland River Watershed."

The Compact's REP project builds on work that the EPA previously funded through a Targeted Watershed Grant in 2003 to construct three sustainable demonstration homes.

Through the new grant, the Compact will train builders, developers and local officials to use a combination of sustainable site design and building practices, along with environmentally sensitive local ordinances. The Compact will demonstrate how these efforts can conserve water and energy and ultimately lower communities' long-term infrastructure costs and save homeowners' money. Savings will be documented in a comprehensive economic analysis report that will be widely disseminated among development professionals along with a Sustainable Building Training Manual. Lastly, the Compact will convene government, nonprofit and professional development and building partners with expertise in various green building certification programs. The experts will consider combining aspects of the certification programs into more holistic national sustainable building standards that address water quality and quantity, energy conservation and indoor health.

"Today, there is no easy way for homebuyers to verify developers' claims that residences are sustainable or to compare one 'green' home against another," said Regional Administrator Jimmy Palmer. "Through this grant, the Compact will take the first step in bringing together green building experts from around the country to develop more holistic green residential standards that will provide certainty for consumers as well as protect the environment."

Across the Southeast, increased growth has led to more water pollution from sedimentation and urban runoff. At the same time, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Southeast has lost more open space to sprawl than any other region in the country. The Compact works with developers and local governments on innovative strategies that go beyond compliance to stop the negative impacts of growth on the environment, especially the water quality of the 697-mile long Cumberland River. The watershed covers 18,000 square miles and is home to almost 2 million people.

"We work to enhance water quality in the Cumberland Basin. Green building helps get us there and creates energy, water and financial savings for homeowners in the process," said Margo Farnsworth, the Compact's Senior Fellow.

A new Request for Proposals for the Regional Environmental Priorities Projects was announced in July. EPA Region 4 expects to award seven to 10 grants totaling approximately \$500,000. The deadline to submit applications is Sept. 10.

For more information about this and other EPA Region 4 grant solicitation announcements, visit:
<http://www.epa.gov/region4/grants/index.htm>

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